

AMENDMENT AND PRESENTATION OF CLAIMS

Please replace all prior claims in the present application with the following claims.

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
receiving, by a receiver, a session initiation protocol message transporting one of at least two types of message service at a single address, a first message service being real-time and a second message service being bulk, wherein the session initiation protocol message comprises a control portion and wherein the control portion comprises an expiration time field value wherein the value of the expiration time field value is configured to identify an identification of the type of message service transported by the session initiation protocol message.
2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 further comprising:
processing the session initiation protocol message in dependence on the expiration time field value identification in the control portion of the session initiation protocol message.
3. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the control portion is a header of the session initiation protocol message.
4. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the control portion is a value field of the session initiation protocol message.
5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 further comprising:

processing said session initiation protocol message by an application associated with the first message service type.

6. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 5, wherein the session initiation protocol message transports the second type of message service and wherein the application associated first message service type forwards the session initiation protocol message to an application associated with the second message service type.

7. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the first type of message service is dependent upon instant delivery and the second type of messaging service is dependent upon reliable delivery.

8. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 7 wherein the second type of message service comprises at least one of a short message service, an extended message service, and a multimedia message service.

9. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 7 wherein the first type of message service comprises an instant messaging service.

10-19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a receiver configured to receive a session initiation protocol message transporting one of at least two types of message service at a single address, a first message service being real-

time and a second message service type being bulk, said session initiation protocol message including a control portion comprising an expiration time field value wherein the value of the expiration time field value is configured to identify ~~identifying~~ the type of message service transported by the session initiation protocol message, wherein said apparatus is associated with the first message service type; and

a transmitter configured to direct the session initiation protocol messages of the second message service type to a further apparatus.

21. (Previously Presented) An application server apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the apparatus comprises an internet multimedia subsystem application server.

22. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the further apparatus comprises a multimedia messaging service applications server.

23. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the control portion of the session initiation protocol message comprises a header field.

24. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the control portion of the session initiation protocol message comprises a value field.

25. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the first type of message service is dependent upon the instant delivery of an associated message.

26. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the first type of message service comprises an instant messaging service.

27. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the second type of messaging service is dependent upon reliable delivery of an associated message.

28. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the second type of message service comprises at least one of a short message service, an extended message service, and a multimedia message service.

29. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the internet multimedia subsystem application server is configured to store and forward session initiation protocol messages in dependence on the control portion identifying one of the message service types.

30. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the apparatus is configured to utilize the control portion to identify the type of message service transported by the session initiation protocol message.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the transmitter is configured to direct session initiation protocol messages of the first message service type to a

second further apparatus, said second further apparatus being an application server associated with the first message service type.

33. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, further comprising:
utilizing the control portion to identify the type of message service transported by the session initiation protocol message.

34. (Canceled)

35. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 5 wherein the session initiation protocol message transports the first type of message service, and wherein the application associated with the first message service type forwards the session initiation protocol message to a further application associated with the first message service type.

36. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
transmitting, by a transmitter, a session initiation protocol message transporting one of at least two types of message service to a single address, a first message service type being real-time and a second message service type being bulk, wherein the session initiation protocol message comprises a control portion, and wherein the control portion comprises an expiration time field value wherein the value of the expiration time field value is configured to identify ~~identification of~~ the type of message service transported by the session initiation protocol message.

37. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 36, wherein the control portion comprises a header of the session initiation protocol message.

38. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 36, further comprising:
defining, in the control portion, the expiration time field value to identify ~~identification of the~~
type of message service transported by the session initiation protocol message.

39. (Canceled)

40. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 36, wherein the control portion comprises a value field of the session initiation protocol message.

41. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:
a transmitter configured to transmit a session initiation protocol message transporting one of
at least two types of message service to a single address, a first message service type being
real-time and a second message service type being bulk, wherein the session initiation
protocol message comprises a control portion, and wherein the control portion comprises
an expiration time field value wherein the value of the expiration time field value is
configured to identify ~~identification of the~~ type of message service transported by the
session initiation protocol message.

42. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 41, wherein the control portion comprises a header of the session initiation protocol message.

43. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 41 wherein the apparatus is configured to define, in the control portion, the expiration time field value to identify ~~identification~~ of the type of message service transported by the session initiation protocol message.

44. (Canceled)

45. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 41, wherein the control portion comprises a value field of the session initiation protocol message.

46. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium encoded with instructions configured to control a computer to perform a process comprising:

receiving a session initiation protocol message transporting one of at least two types of message service at a single address, a first message service being real-time and a second message service being bulk, wherein the session initiation protocol message comprises a control portion, and wherein the control portion comprises an expiration time field value wherein the value of the expiration time field value is configured to identify ~~identification~~ of the type of message service transported by the session initiation protocol message.

47. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium encoded with instructions configured to control a computer to perform a process comprising:

transmitting a session initiation protocol message transporting one of at least two types of message service to a single address, a first message service type being real-time and a second message service type being bulk,

wherein the session initiation protocol message comprises a control portion, and
wherein the control portion comprises an expiration time field value wherein the value of the
expiration time field value is configured to identify ~~identification of the type of message~~
service transported by the session initiation protocol message.